

GoToMeeting | Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building 4 So. Eagleville Road, Mansfield, CT

DRAFT MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Moran called the regular meeting of the Mansfield Town Council to order at 7:00 p.m. on GoToMeeting.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Ausburger (see below for late arrival), Berthelot, Bruder, Fratoni, Freudmann, Kochenburger, Moran, Schurin, Shaiken

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Shaiken **moved** and Mr. Bruder seconded to approve the minutes of the May 11, 2020 regular meeting as presented. Motion **passed** with all in favor.

Mr. Shaiken **moved** and Mr. Bruder seconded to approve the minutes of the May 15, 2020 special meeting as presented. Motion **passed** with all in favor except Fratoni and Freudmann who abstained.

[Mr. Ausburger arrived]

4. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

Lauren LaBlanc, Middle Turnpike, expressed concern over the lack of a reverse 911 call regarding a recent armed and dangerous man in Willington. Peter Millman, Dog Lane, Sustainability Committee member, spoke in support of the municipal assistance program for the solar project and asked the Council to vote in support.

5. REPORT OF THE TOWN MANAGER/COVID 19 UPDATE

Interim Town Manager John Carrington presented his written report.

6. REPORTS AND COMMENTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mayor Moran reported that she is also concerned about the lack of communication to residents about the armed and dangerous man.

Mr. Bruder spoke in favor of the book buses.

Mr. Freudmann reported that he attended the Council's recent joint meeting with Region 19, does not support the school resource officer program, and wants the next agreement to include the cost of administration and insurance.

Mr. Shaiken **moved** and Mr. Bruder seconded to move item 8A to precede old business and add silver sneakers discussion as new item 8D. Motion **passed** unanimously.

7. OLD BUSINESS

A. FY 2020/2021 Budget Discussion (Item #8B, 5.11.20 Agenda)
Motion on the floor previously tabled during the May 26, 2020 special meeting of the Town Council now reads:

WHEREAS, Governor Lamont has declared Public Health and Civil Preparedness Emergencies on March 10, 2020, and issued a series of Executive Orders, including Executive Order 7I; and

WHEREAS, Executive Order 7I, Section 13 eliminates any in-person voting requirements for the purposes of adopting a Fiscal Year 2020-2021 budget and requires the Town Council to adopt a Fiscal Year 2020-2021 municipal budget;

NOW THEREFORE, be it:

RESOLVED: That the General Fund Budget for the Town of Mansfield, appended totaling \$43,997,740 is hereby adopted as the proposed operating budget for the Town of Mansfield for the fiscal year July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021.

RESOLVED: That the Capital Fund Budget for the Town of Mansfield, appended totaling \$3,499,770 is hereby adopted as the proposed capital improvements to be undertaken during fiscal year 2020/21 or later years.

RESOLVED: That the Capital and Non-Recurring Reserve Fund Budget for the Town of Mansfield, appended totaling \$2,717,730 is hereby adopted as the proposed budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021.

RESOLVED: That a virtual "Public Hearing" shall be held on June 2, 2020 at 7:00pm, for residents and qualified citizens to comment on said proposed Operating Budget, Capital Fund Budget and the Capital and Non-Recurring Reserve Fund budgets for the Town of Mansfield.

Mr. Freudmann **moved** and Mr. Fratoni seconded to reduce spending in the community development portion of the capital improvement program by reducing the proposed spending on the line item 'positioning and marketing plan' from \$50,000 to \$0, said reduction to be returned to the general fund. Motion **failed** with all against except Ausburger, Fratoni, Freudmann, and Schurin who voted in favor.

Mr. Freudmann **moved** and Mr. Fratoni seconded to reduce spending in the community services portion of the capital improvement program by reducing proposed spending on the line item 'human services van' from \$64,000 to \$0. \$39,000 shall be returned to the general fund. Motion **failed** with all against except Ausburger, Fratoni, and Freudmann who voted in favor.

Mr. Freudmann **moved** and Mr. Fratoni seconded that in program #12100, municipal management, to remove the proposed hiring of a communications specialist, resulting in a reduction of \$45,300 to the program, said reduction to be returned to the general fund. Motion **failed** with all against except Ausburger, Fratoni, and Freudmann who voted in favor.

Mr. Freudmann **moved** and Mr. Fratoni seconded to reduce spending in the community services portion of the capital improvement program by reducing proposed spending on the line item 'playscapes and playground surfacing' from \$50,000 to \$0 with said reduction to be returned to the general fund. Motion **failed** with all against except Ausburger, Fratoni, and Freudmann who voted in favor.

Ms. Berthelot **moved** and Mr. Freudmann seconded that the distribution to Veterans Services and to the Windham Area No Freeze Shelter be reconfigured so that each get \$7,550. Motion **passed** with all in favor except Mr. Shaiken who abstained.

Main motion to adopt the budget as amended **passed** with all in favor except Ausburger, Fratoni, and Freudmann who voted against.

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. Solar Municipal Assistance Program

Mr. Carrington briefly reviewed the Solar Municipal Assistance Program. Representatives from Connecticut Green Bank gave a detailed presentation regarding the Program, reviewed model savings and finance assumptions, and answered Councilor questions regarding direct ownership of the solar panels versus a power purchase agreement.

Ms. Berthelot **moved** and Mr. Shaiken seconded, effective May 26, 2020, to authorize the Town Manager to sign the Letter of Intent that sets forth the Green Bank's and the Town of Mansfield's desires and intentions with respect to solar photovoltaic systems to negotiate in good faith during an exclusive period of 360 days, commencing with execution of this Letter, to reach a then binding agreement consisting of one or more specific agreements to be mutually agreed. Motion **passed** unanimously.

B. Proclamation Recognizing June as LGBTQ Pride Month

Mr. Bruder **moved** and Mr. Schurin seconded to authorize the Mayor to issue the attached Proclamation recognizing June as LGBTQ Pride Month. Motion **passed** unanimously.

C. Human Rights Campaign's Municipal Equality Index

Mr. Shaiken **moved** and Ms. Berthelot seconded, effective May 26, 2020, to assign Councilors Bruder and Schurin to coordinate with the Human Rights Campaign on their Municipal Equality Index rating for Mansfield. Motion **passed** unanimously.

D. Silver Sneakers Survey

Mr. Shaiken **moved** and Ms. Berthelot seconded to table item 8D discussion of Silver Sneakers to the June 8th meeting. Motion **passed** with all in favor except Mr. Bruder who voted against.

9. REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Mr. Bruder reported that the Committee on Committees met on May 13, 2020 for a special meeting to interview William Kaufold.

By recommendation of the Committee on Committees, Mr. Bruder **moved** to appoint Dr. William Kaufold to the Eastern Highlands Health District for a term ending June 1, 2023. Motion **passed** unanimously.

Mr. Kochenburger reported that the Finance Committee will hold a special meeting on June 9, 2020 and will discuss Town's liability insurance policy.

10. DEPARTMENTAL AND ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORTS None.

11. PETITIONS, REQUESTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Storrs Center Parking Operation Financial Report (April 2020)
- B. E. Herrick (5.15.20)
- C. V. Klassen (5.15.20)
- D. E. Palmer (5.15.20)
- E. M. Shea (5.15.20)
- F. T. Moran, email re: Operations Update (5.18.20)
- G. D. Freudmann, Budget Trends, Chronicle letter of 4.30.20 (5.18.20)
- H. J. Carrington, letter re: Appointment to Mansfield Conservation Commission (5.19.20)
- I. M. Thompson Mansfield Firefighters Association letter (5.19.20)

12. FUTURE AGENDAS

Reverse 911 Protocol

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Ms. Berthelot **moved** and Mr. Ausburger seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:46 p.m. The motion **passed** unanimously.

Antonia Moran, Mayor

Sara-Ann Chaine, Town Clerk



WHEREAS, the Town of Mansfield is a welcoming, accepting, and affirming place to grow; and

WHEREAS, Mansfield recognizes the importance of equality and freedom; and

WHEREAS, the nation was founded upon and is guided by a set of principles that includes that every person has been created equal, that each has rights to their life, liberty and pursuit of happiness and that each shall be accorded the full recognition and protection of law; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Mansfield's Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer (LGBTQ) community are a vital part of all fields and professions and contribute to a stronger community; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Mansfield is committed to supporting visibility, dignity, and equity for all people in the community; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Mansfield is dedicated to fostering acceptance of all its citizens and preventing discrimination and bullying based on sexual orientation and gender identity; and

WHEREAS, Mansfield is strengthened by and thrives upon the rich diversity of ethnic, cultural, racial, gender, and sexual identities of its residents; all of which contribute to the vibrant character of our town; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) recognizes that LGBTQ teens are at higher risk to be the victims of violence and have increased rates of death by suicide when experiencing rejection from their families and communities; and

WHEREAS, it is imperative that young people in the community, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity, feel valued, safe, empowered, and supported by their peers, educators, and community leaders; and

WHEREAS, the rainbow flag, also known as the LGBTQ pride flag or gay pride flag, has inspired hope since the 1970s as a symbol of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer pride and progress; and

WHEREAS, the "Philadelphia" rainbow flag includes black and brown stripes in order to highlight and increase visibility of the racial and ethnic diversity of the LGBTQ community and celebrates those intersections of identity; and

WHEREAS, flying the Philadelphia rainbow flag at Town Hall throughout the month of June further symbolizes the Town's celebration of diversity and support for the LGBTQ community; and

WHEREAS, "love is love is love is love is love is love is love cannot be killed or swept aside."

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Antonia Moran, Mayor of the Town of Mansfield, Connecticut and on behalf of the Mansfield Town Council, hereby proclaim and recognize June 2020 as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer (LGBTQ) Pride Month in the Town of Mansfield and urge citizens to actively promote the principles of equality, love, and acceptance throughout the community.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand and caused the seal of the Town of Mansfield to be affixed on this 26th day of May in the year 2020.

Antonia Moran, Mayor Town of Mansfield May 26, 2020